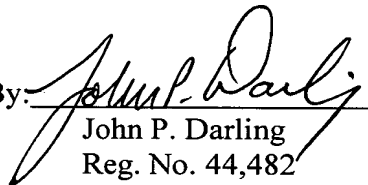


REMARKS

Claims 7-10 are pending. By this Amendment, the specification is amended and claims 1-6 and 11-15 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 
John P. Darling
Reg. No. 44,482
Phone: (703) 905-2045
Fax: (703) 905-2500

October 30, 2003

P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000

JPD:tmt